



The Northern Lights

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NC prepares for ISSMA contest

By Gail Paik

Students of the North Central High School Music Department are participating in the Indiana State School Music Association Solo and Ensemble Contest.

Music students are given the opportunity to compete as a solo or as an ensemble in either the vocal or instrumental categories. The instrumental category includes the piano, the percussion instruments, the string instruments, the wind instruments, and the brass instruments. Each solo or ensemble contestant competes in different divisions with Division I being the highest divi-



Members of the North Central orchestra rehearse and perfect their orchestral skills in preparation for ISSMA contests.

sion. Unlike in other divisions, Division I competitors must choose a work from a selected list to compete. Therefore, Division I consists of the advanced musicians.

The judging works on a point system, the least points being the best. Different items are judged depending on the different categories. A few of the areas that may be judged

are intonation, tone quality, phrasing, diction, breathing, and rhythmic accuracy with the highest point being one. Obtaining the points 7 to 10 is a superior rating. A good rating

is the points 11 to 15. Obtaining the points 10 to 22 is a fair rating. The students who earn a superior rating in Division I continue competing in the state competition.

Pat Wiehe, organizer of the vocal aspect of the contest, states that more students are competing this year than in the previous years. She expects North Central to do very well in both the district and state competition as North Central has done in the past.

The district competition will be held on January 30 for the instrumental competition and will be held on February 6 for the vocal and piano competition.

Decathlon team prepares for regionals

By Marla Burt

North Central has received many awards for outstanding performances in the fine arts as well as ath-

letics, but N.C.'s academic excellence is not overlooked. The Academic Decathlon team will compete in the regional competition on Sat., January 16 at Perry Meridian. If the team finishes in the top three in the regionals, it will advance to the state competition with the chance to further advance to the national competition in Texas. For the past two years, North Central has represented by the Decathlon team in the national competition.

This year's team consists of Chip Beckiewicz, Dawn Corbin, John Ehrmann, Jill Fitterling, Jason Fruits, Bridget Graham, Chris Grindley, Debby Lane, Michael Lieber, John McNutt, Eric Schmiegel, Stefanie Shepherd, Kyle Stanford, and Eric Thompson. Coached by Mr. Bill Broderick and Mr. David Fruits, the team is composed of juniors and seniors.

The contest is divided into three divisions. The first is the Honors

Division which includes students with a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 or higher. To be placed in the Scholastic Division the student must maintain

at least a 3.0 grade point average. The Varsity Division include students with a grade point average below 3.0.

The contest requires the students to be knowledgeable in a variety of subjects. Tests are given in the areas of Economics, Social Science, Language, Literature, Science, Math, and the Fine Arts. The contestants are also required to give two speeches. One is impromptu and the other is a prepared 4-5 minute speech on the topic of their choice. The judges also interview each participant. Each team member filled out a questionnaire with questions geared toward a more personal aspect. The students were asked to list activities in which they participate. Then the "Super Quiz" is given

which consists of five questions. This year the "Super Quiz" will cover the topic of aviation history.

Preparing for the competition is a collective effort on the part of the team members. An outline is made of the various areas to be covered. Each student is then assigned a certain subject to research and study. The practices consist of the team members teaching each other their assigned topics. Dawn Corbin, a junior explained the preparation as having to "read and read, and then read some more."

The learning process begins by the students taking tests that were used for the last year's contest. They are able to get an idea of what is expected of them and work towards similar tests. Corbin explained that it is "amazing how much work there is." She commented that "even though it is a lot of work, it will still be a lot of fun."

Jr. Spec

Hours of practice and hard work paid off for the Junior Spectacular acts on Wednesday, January 6 in the auditorium when Spec cuts were held.

The four acts (in order of appearance) which will perform in Junior Spectacular 1988 are THE TIMES OF OUR LIVES, PRIMITIVELY SPEAKING, SATAN SAYS, and TAKING IT FOR GRANITE.

The writers for the acts are Sean Halloway and David Gipson for The Time Of Our Lives, Caroline Coons and Megan Pendergast for Primitively Speaking, David Wu, Chip Neidigh, and Shelly Goldstone for Satan Says, and Andy Cobb, Marin Ventum, and Jeremy Glowacki for Taking It For Granite.

Satan Says, Primitively Speaking, don't find yourself Taking It For Granite have The Time Of Our Lives, come see Junior Spectacular 1988! May the best act win!

In Brief

Semester exam schedule is as follows:

Fri., Jan. 15-full day; period 2 exams
Tues., Jan. 19-half day; periods 1 and 3 exams
Wed., Jan. 20-half day; periods 6/7/8 and 9 exams
Thurs., Jan. 21-half day; periods 4/5/6 exams and 10 exams

There will be no school on Mon., Jan. 18 in observance of Martin Luther King Day. School will not be in session on Fri., Jan. 22, Teacher Report Day.

Mon., Jan. 25 is the start of the second semester. Students must report to their first semester homerooms at 7:30 am in order to pick up new second semester schedules.

Seniors will order their graduation announcements during lunch periods on Thurs. and Fri., Jan. 28 and 29.

Jan. 29 is the registration deadline for the ACT test to be administered on Feb. 27.

Editorial

VANDALISM

By Andrew Libby

Let's conduct a very simple experiment. Everyone take a minute to check underneath their desk or cafeteria table and look for some gum. It won't be a long search.

Chances are, there are at least 10 pieces of gum in assorted colors found under the new desks and tables in each classroom, not to mention the signature and love life of many NC students also engraved on the furniture.

Then take a walk through the halls and try to locate some paper on the floor, usually found in abundance during semester finals week, graffiti in the stairwells, obscenities on the walls and be sure to pass by the window in the library which was shot through in mid-December.

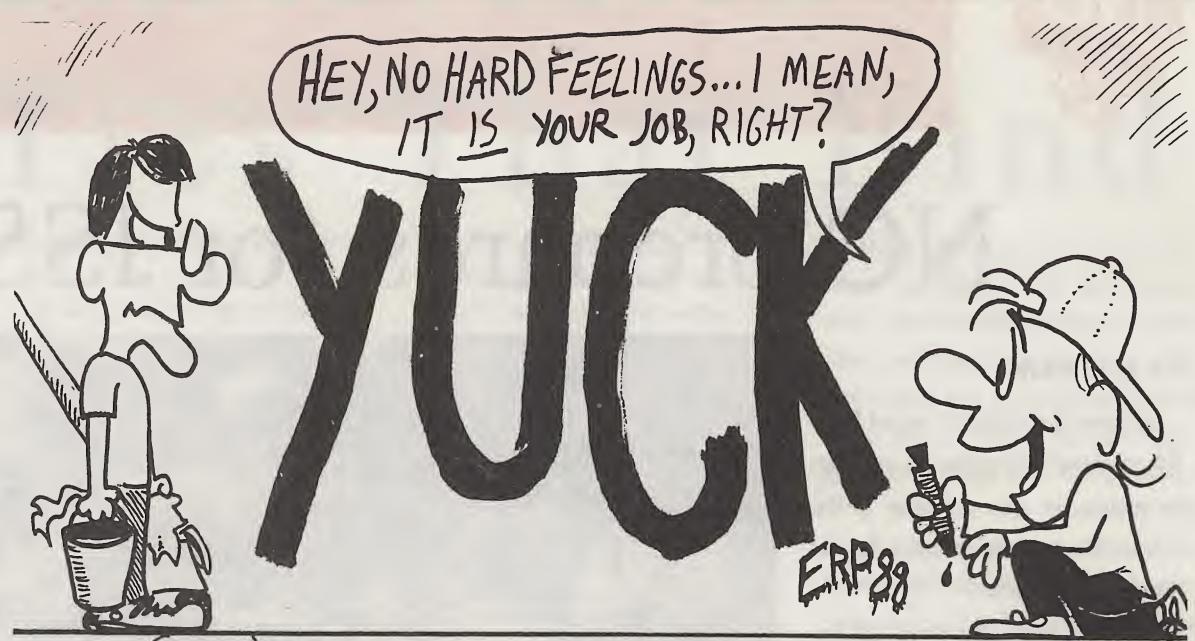
Most likely, you will have as little trouble finding these as you would the gum under the desks and it's a shame. Of course, many students may justify this type of activity placing the burden of cleanliness on the custodians. Certainly, it is part of their job to keep the school clean but this should not entail picking up the messes students make. A joint effort and cooperation from the students is needed to keep the school clean. It would seem in everyone's best interest to keep the school clean considering both students and faculty spend almost eight hours a day in school for nine months each year.

It is not even a matter of school pride or spirit, it is simply having respect for other students and faculty. So next week, after semester finals, do something different with your old papers. Maybe even throw them in the trash can along with the gum you would otherwise put under the desk or on the floor.

The Northern Lights

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ISTEP to debut this spring

By David Leonard

In the past year, Indiana high school students have heard a great deal about Governor Orr's A+ program to bring our schools up to par with the rest of the nation's schools. An integral part of this program is the Indiana Statewide Testing of Educational Progress, also referred to as ISTEP.

The main reason behind the birth of the ISTEP program is the real need for the same standardized tests in all Indiana high schools. ISTEP will give Indiana one statewide standard for its schools and force those townships that don't currently give any standardized testing to do so. The desired results of this testing program are to better place student transferring in from other townships and to help correct the deficiencies of some state schools.

The composition of ISTEP, as explained by Mrs. Slivka, the North Central reading specialist and minimum competency coordinator, is quite intensive. The battery of tests

consists of the California Achievement Test, an externally scored writing sample, 24 important additional items in math and language arts not included in the California Achievement Test, and a test of cognitive skills to test students' aptitude.

To administer the tests will be a logistical nightmare for all involved. The tests will be administered for 8 1/2 hours over a time span of three to four days for each class and must be administered between the 1st and the 11th of March so that the tests may be scored by the end of the school year. The big challenge of administering this test is the sheer numbers of students who must take the tests over eight school days - half of North Central. Currently, a committee of administrators, counselors and teachers are working on the logistics of giving the test at NC.

There are some disadvantages of ISTEP, however. Although Mrs. Slivka did not know the precise cost

of the ISTEP program for the state as a whole, she claimed that it must be very expensive. Can this money not be put to better uses? One teacher suggested that more teachers could be hired with this money and thereby lower class size. Another possible use for the money used for the ISTEP program could be higher teacher salaries to further motivate teachers and to attract more, better qualified persons to the teaching profession. Although at the middle school and elementary levels there is a great deal of funding for remediation, it is not clear how much will be spent for remediation at the high school level.

All in all, the ISTEP program is a very good idea which has much potential to improve Indiana's educational standards. Although the logistics are an incredible nightmare and the end result of ISTEP is still unclear, the excitement and eagerness toward the ISTEP program is well justified.

Feature

Escaping the Winter Blahs

by Elizabeth Carter and Julie Bradford

It's January 15. Two weeks after winter break. Just about now they'll be setting in. They're the WINTER BLAHS!!

To help you avoid or at least ignore the Blahs, we've found some fun, entertaining activities for you to do:

Have a beach party in your living room ... the sand may be a problem but rafts, beach balls, colorful towels, Beach Boys and the right food can make winter seem just like summer.

Go shopping for spring clothes ... try on and spend as much as you like - it makes spring seem like it is just around the corner.

Have theme parties at lunch. Have everyone bring food and props and make lunch an enjoyable experience. For example, have an "Evening Out" lunch - everyone dress up, bring nice food and plates, and candles

See all the movies you missed that you have ever wanted to see. VCR's and movie rentals make it possible for you to rent almost any movie you have ever wanted to see but just didn't have time to see in the theater.

Serenade your loved one over the telephone... a new twist to an old summertime tradition in so you don't freeze to death outside.

Completely redecorate your room... with new colors, curtains, shades, posters... anything that strikes your fancy.

Give people presents just for the heck of it. Just because the holiday season is officially over doesn't mean the gift giving has to stop. People always appreciate gifts, no matter how small or simple.

Cut words, pictures, and assorted adages out of magazines and make a large collage. Use it as decoration for your newly redecorated room or as a gift for a friend.

Go skiing, sledding or build a snowman. Of course you'll have to find some snow first.

Cuddle in front of a great big fire... with your loved one, and if you don't have one, have a good time with your friends.

Splurge on an Evening Out by taking a carriage ride around the Circle and eating at horribly expensive downtown restaurant that has a good view of the skyline.

Plan your wedding or find a name for your first born child. Yes, it may be a bit early to be doing this but it is something to do.

Catch up on all your letter writing. Find out what ever happened to Joey in fourth grade, or the gorgeous life-guard of last summer, or just put a smile on a grandparent's face. Stamps are still cheaper than long distance.

Play a game with a bunch of friends... like Scruples, Twister or Pictionary.



T: Watch out Bob and Tom, there are two new kids on the block.

S: They may not be professionals, they may not play great music, in fact they may not have many redeeming qualities...

T: But they do have the best 3 hour comedic radio program on any Northside high school on Wednesday night. And I mean that.

S: Hey now! I'm Seymour.

T: And I'm Travis. We're talking about "The Mark and Jason Show", featuring Mark Bernstein and Jason Randolph. If you swing down to the left of the dial, you can hear them every Wednesday night from 6:30 P.M. to 9:30 P.M. on WJEL, 89.3 F.M.

S: It's a good show because you can call up and they'll say your name on the air. It's a bad show because they crack too many inside jokes. If you don't know Mark and Jason, well then you miss out on half the fun.

T: It's a good show because they have great contests and specialties: "Yiddish Word of the Day," "Jokes on You," "Amateur Hour," and numerous trivia questions. It's a bad show because they don't play one single, solitary Beatles' song.

S: My personal favorite part of the show is "Amateur Hour." This is when listeners of the show send in their own songs and Mark and Jason kindly play them on the air, no matter how bad they are.

T: Not that any have been bad or anything, Ha Ha. One major problem with the show, common to all high school radio shows, is that the DJ's talk too much.

S: Not that Mark and Jason's conversations isn't interesting, but after about ten minutes of giggles and wisecracks, the listener can become pretty hungry for some music.

T: The contests are the high point of the show. Not only are they imaginative, like "Jokes on You" in which the audience makes up jokes to go with a given punch line, but they also give out loopy prizes, like showercaps and bottles of mouthwash.

S: After you listen to the show you often find yourself talking like Mark and Jason. You what I mean, babe! Go figure!

T: Ow! I like that, man. The best thing about the show is the dedications they do. They played one song twice in an hour just because someone wanted to hear it again. They love their audience, and they don't put themselves on a pedestal above them, unlike us.

S: Yeah, but we're better looking, although they're much funnier than we are.

T: So on those cold winter Wednesday nights, tune in to 89.3 FM for 3 hours of fun-loving good times and a little music on the side.

S: "The Mark and Jason Show." It's hot.

T: Stay clean...

S: Or don't.

Student Focus

Kristin Dawley, senior

If you could change anything about NC what would it be?

The size - I'd like it to be smaller. I like the idea of there not being cliques and getting to know more people better.

What do you think makes you unique from everyone else?

I try to be really openminded - as openminded as I can - and try not to have any prejudices against people. I try to be myself.

What do you like most about yourself?

My adventurism.

If you could end world hunger, the nuclear arms race,



or racism by killing one innocent person, would you do it? Why or why not?

Yes, because there would be a kind of trade off. By killing an innocent person I'd be saving

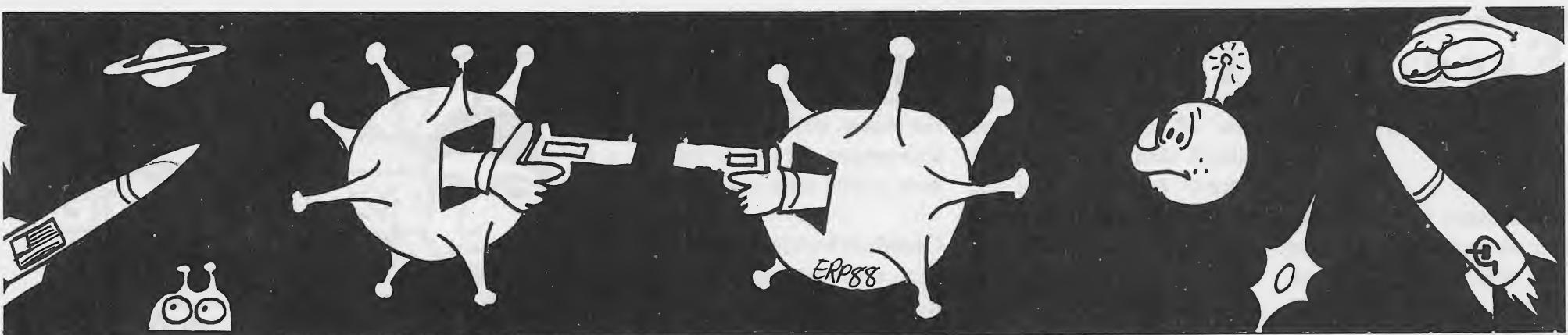
millions and millions of other innocent people.

If you could relive one moment in your life what would it be?

This year when one of my friends had a surprise party for me - it was one of the happiest moments of my life.

Comments to NC students:
Don't be so cruel to everyone in the school. Start seeing people for what they are. Get out of the cliques and meet people. And don't have any inhibitions about what you think people are like.

Insights



SDI - Can it Work??

YES

NO

Imagine the United States or even the world invulnerable from nuclear attack. According to President Reagan such a situation would make nuclear devices obsolete. This sounds impossible, but even now the United States is working on the Strategic Defense Initiative to accomplish what has just been stated.

SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative) is exactly what it says. SDI is a purely defensive method of eliminating nuclear missiles while on a flight path toward their destinations as proposed by the United States military. This would be accomplished by a series of defensive weapons in space and on earth with both lasers and projectiles. Certainly a system like SDI, or "Star Wars" as it has been dubbed, seems highly impossible to the average American. Was it not, however, thought to be impossible to place a man on the moon? Yet, the Apollo project quickly turned this dream to fact. Since then, unbelievable accomplishments have been achieved in space such as the manned space shuttle. With today's technology, SDI is a very real possibility. In fact, in 1985, the military tested a prototype system on an unarmed Minuteman Missile over the Pacific Ocean with complete success. General Abrahamson, the man appointed to oversee SDI, said this was 10 times harder than "shooting a bullet with a bullet." Since this experiment went well, much faith can now be placed in SDI, feels scientists and politicians alike.

President Reagan, who proposed the SDI program in 1983, defends his actions by stating that the weapons as purely defensive and in fact, no loss of life will come "Wars" plan. Reagan also believes that the world needs another defense from nuclear weapons other than mutually assured destruction, which Reagan believes is the major reason nuclear weapons have not been used since 1945. Simply put, mutually assured destruction (MAD as it is commonly referred to) is if one super power initiates a nuclear war, the other side will surely retaliate with seemingly no "winner."

As Reagan sees it, SDI may be the earth's only solution. Military experts clearly feel that SDI will make a nuclear weapon obsolete. Also, any effective system that the United States invents will be offered to the Russians just as Reagan offered in 1983 when he proposed SDI. This demonstrates the United States' truly defensive stance on the nuclear issue.

The general public seems to feel that SDI would be of an incredible cost and most likely a waste. When Reagan announced the program, however, he projected only a \$26 billion price tag. This cost is less than \$9 million over what the Soviet military spent on space

technology in 1985 alone.

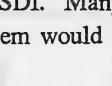
SDI is a highly plausible program that when established would prove only a defensive weapon. "Star Wars" may prove to even make the nuclear weapons obsolete, and this is clearly by the initiative of the United States. As President Reagan stated himself, "It [SDI] would not militarize space, but would help demilitarize the arsenals of Earth."

If the button were to be pushed, that is, if we engaged in nuclear war, chances are we will all die. Although this seems foolishly pessimistic and annihilistic, the facts and the experts both point to total destruction in the event of an all-out nuclear attack. Between fall-out, radiation poisoning, and nuclear winter, chances look grim that anybody could survive 20,000 nuclear warheads. Now there is a movement to implement a spaced-based defense program, called SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative). Ever since its inception, experts in the field have been opposed to this method of nuclear defense.

One of the main reasons for the wide-spread opposition to SDI has been that many feel such a system just simply will not work. Most of the weapons in the defense program deal with fields of science in which are just being researched. The complex field of lasers and space-based technology is very new, and a lot is yet to be learned about these fields. Because of this fact, many feel that SDI couldn't possibly work for another 50 to 100 years from now, simply because we do not have the knowledge and technology yet.

According to an article in *Sojourners*, October, 1984, "Most of these weapons systems have enormous technical difficulties and economic costs that may never be overcome. Furthermore, even if the technical problems were resolved, there are grave doubts that these weapons could ever provide an effective defense against a nuclear attack."

Another large, almost insurmountable obstacle is the mere economics of SDI. Many opponents have repeatedly shown that the costs of such a system would be overwhelming. One expert analyst suggested that instead of the \$10 billion a year estimates that the White House projects, \$100 to \$500 billion a year budgets are more likely. With an already burdening spending and trade deficit, these costs could possibly eventually cause economic turmoil.



mail.

There are several other reasons why SDI should never become a reality. If one where to apply logic, one would see many faults in SDI. For example, as Carl Sagan pointed out, if SDI is 95% effective against incoming missiles (and projections of 50%- 75% are the more likely effectiveness of SDI) and the Russians sent at least 20,000 missiles, that means that at least 1,000 missiles would get through. That is enough to destroy our country several times over. If the system was 99% accurate, 200 missiles would still get through, still enough to destroy us. (Depressing, eh?)



REAGAN MEETS WITH MILITARY ADVISORS

Boys' swimming off to good start

By Steve Campbell

One of the teams at North Central with a long winning tradition is the boys' swim team. In its years at N.C., the team has seen several state titles as well as numerous county, sectional and regional championships. The team hopes to return to grandeur they attained last year as state runner-up and as the state's second ranked team for most of the year.

Several members from last year's team qualified for state

competition at the I.U. Natatorium. Seniors Steve Harless and Brendon Buckley; junior Monty Wandling; and sophomore Rob Meadows all were state finalists last year, and all will highlight the team this year.

The team as a whole missed the state crown by a very small margin last year; however, many of the swimmers who were part of that team are back for another exciting year. The team will receive strong leadership from its

senior members. Seniors Randy Edwards, butterfly; Rod Fasone, sprint freestyle; divers Joe Korzekwa and Jason Patterson along with Harless and Buckley will provide the needed experience for the team.

There are also many juniors, sophomores and freshman who are showing great promise. Some of these members are juniors Wandling, Dan Hume and Scott Powell; sophomores Meadows and Jason Brooks; and

freshmen Jason Yoder and Andy Bledsoe.

The team has already faced such teams as Kokomo, Warren Central and Pike and soon they will be involved in the county tournament at Southport. The team will swim at home against teams like Lake Central, Anderson and Ben Davis; and the team will host the North Central Invitational on January 23.

Senior Rod Fasone summed the season with this statement: "I feel that the team will improve a lot as the year goes along." And with the fine coaching of Mr. Bill Powell, the strong leadership of its outstanding team members and the previous experience and success under their belt the boys' swim team is destined to continue the winning tradition.

Boys' basketball strong at mid-season

By Brett Henry

The boys' basketball team is on a roll. After losing their first game of the season, they have come on to win six of their last seven encounters to push their record to 6-2.

Sandwiched between two tough losses are six straight wins. The setbacks came to two state ranked teams, number five Kokomo and number two Muncie Central. Both contests, which were on the road, were close and hard fought.

Then there are the six victories. After defeating Carmel, the team extended its streak to three by winning the next two games. They defeated Lawrence Central at home and then traveled to Fort Wayne North, where they recorded a 66-61 victory. Next, the squad disposed of Southport, 76-60, and then Tech, 66-62, in the confines of the NC gym. After this there followed yet another one in the win column, with the Panthers downing New Albany, 56-42, on their opponents court. Thus ended the six game surge.

In the last four games, the team has consistently improved. "We seem to be coming together as a team," commented Greg Akers. The team has benefitted from extremely strong first quarters, jumping ahead of its opponents in all but one game. In addition the scoring has been spread around pretty evenly.

All five starters, Tony Barbee, Kevin Brown, Bill Gillis, Aaron

Shelby and John Carter, have contributed to the cause. Barbee is averaging 15.4 points a game, Gillis 14.0 and Carter and Shelby 12.2 and 12.1 respectively. In addition, Gillis is pulling down 11.3 rebounds a game and has been an outstanding senior leader. The starters have been supported by Todd Geyer, Ben Franklin, David Bowman and David Thompson, all of whom have made key contributions so far.

Of the season to date, Coach Steve Coffman remarked, "We have progressed very well. But we have a long way to go if we expect to reach our goals." Good size and team play have been

characteristic of this year's team. Coffman adds, "Team play has improved on offense and defense but we still have made some key mistakes that we must eliminate."

In other action, the team met Warren Central on Jan. 8 and competed in the county tournament the week of Jan. 11. The Panthers are now looking down the road where they have some tough contests awaiting them. Come out and see this exciting team in action. "The team could use all of the student support that they can get," says Coffman.



Center Bill Gillis hangs in the air en route to a basket
photo by Hal Rodenberg

Standing behind the Mike Striving for Respect

By Mike Mattler

On Saturday evening, December 19, the scoreboard in the old gym read Home 78 Guests 79. To those in attendance that night, the significance of that score is clear. The second ranked Muncie Central Bearcats were not a better team than the North Central Panthers, only the one with the last opportunity to win the game. True, Coach Steve Coffman's team did lose this battle. But in their quest for the respect they deserve, the Panthers went a long way toward winning the world. From that night forward, there could be no doubt that this team is for real.

In looking at the game, North Central was equal to every challenge which the Bearcats presented. When forced to shoot from outside, Aaron Shelby and John Carter blew the opponents away with their three point efforts. When the team needed two pressure free throws to force overtime, Bill Gillis showed nerves of steel. When strong frontline play was needed off the bench in overtime, Todd Geyer turned in his best performance of the season. The Panthers were pushed to their very limits in this game, and this type of outstanding play showed what tremendous talent and potential exists in this team.

The nemesis that night, however, was foul trouble, due largely to North Central's inexperience. The Panthers played the end of regulation and both overtimes without their starting forwards Tony Barbee and Kevin Brown, each of whom had fouled out. At crucial points in the overtime periods, fouls by Ben Franklin and Aaron Shelby proved to be just enough to keep the Bearcats from being upset. The point here is not to blame any one player for the loss, but rather to put it in proper perspective.

With just seven games under its belt, a North Central team with only three seniors on its roster fought the state's second ranked team to what may be most accurately described as a draw. The Panthers have nine games plus the remainder of the county tourney in which to work toward eliminating these foul problems before the start of the state tournament. As it stands now, although the media polls do not reflect it, North Central is probably home to one of the ten best teams in the state. Given time to gain some much needed experience, it is more than feasible that this team could go far come state tournament time.

The following is the varsity boys' home basketball schedule for the remainder of the season:

Saturday, January 23rd, Pike
Friday, January 29th, Arlington
Friday, February 5th, Marion
Saturday, February 13th, Perry Meridian
Friday, February 19th, Broad Ripple
Tuesday, March 1st, State Tourney Begins



THE FRIEND WHO JUST STANDS BY

When trouble comes your soul to try,
You love the friend who just "stands by."
Perhaps there's nothing he can do -
The thing is strictly up to you;
For there are troubles all your own
And paths the soul must tread alone;
Times when love cannot smooth the road
Nor friendship lift the heavy load,
But just to know you have a friend
Who will "stand by" until the end,
Whose sympathy through all endures,
Whose warm handclasp is always yours -
It helps, somehow, to pull you through,
Although there's nothing he can do.
And so with fervent heart you cry,
"God bless the friend who just 'stands by'!"

B.Y. Williams

The Ties That Bind

"The only way to have a friend is to be one."

Emerson



A true friend will stand by you during the good times and the bad times. He should always back you up, but not be afraid to tell you when you're wrong. A true friend will go crazy with you and at the same time be there to listen when you want to talk seriously. A true friend will do all of these things.

Steve Ereste, senior

A friend is someone that believes what you feel is important even when those beliefs are in question.

Jon Tampel, sophomore

The only way to have a friend
Is to be one yourself;
The only way to keep a friend
Is to give from that wealth.

For friendship must be doublefold,
Each one must give his share
Of feelings true if he would reap
The blessings that are there.'

If you would say, "He is my friend,"
Then nothing else will do
But you must say, "I am his friend,"
And prove that fact be true.

Author Unknown



Friends
are the leaves
of the tree
of life.

George Meredith

It is you - my friend
Someone who fills my loneliness
And understands my tearing eyes,
Without explanation.
As I fall, you catch me, and
As I fly, you soar.
Words are merely sounds,
But your honest love
Can complete me.
In you I can see beyond
The depths of the ocean and
The limits of the sky.
It is you - my friend.

Danielle Rifkin, sophomore

The most
I can do for
my friend is
simply to be
his friend.

Henry David Thoreau

There are many kinds of friends. There are friends that you go out with, there are friends that you date, there are friends that you party with, and friends that you say hi to passing in the hall. However, the best friend of all is a friend that will do everything with you. A friend that will laugh with you and cry with you. A friend that helps you with your problems, and will call on you when they need help. A friend that will not be afraid to tell you what is wrong with you, and not afraid to say I'm sorry. A friend that you can trust and that trusts you. And a friend that is not afraid to admit that he is a friend.

Brent Ellis, senior

A best friend is someone who truly loves me for who I am. He is willing to listen to my problems, share in my sorrows, and rejoice in my happiness. Nothing I say can deter our relationship, but rather only strengthen. However, when I do wrong, he can tell me how to better my life without sounding harsh or critical, but rather telling me so I know how I can improve myself. When I see this person, I feel joy inside, knowing I don't have to pretend when I am with him. Love is the bond that holds us together forever.

Rachel Soendlin, junior



It is a rare and special thing
to find a friend who will remain
a friend forever.

Ruth Langdon Morgan

Your friendship ...
holds a special place in my heart.

Laine Parsons

Photos by John Keenan

